

ALL IN COLOUR - MAKES LEARNING A JOY

Once Upon a Time

EVERY WEDNESDAY

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PRICE 1/3



SNOW-WHITE and the Seven Dwarfs



1. As darkness was falling over the forest, Snow White's step-mother, the vain and wicked Queen, hurried away from the little cottage of the Seven Dwarfs. "At last I have done it," she was chuckling to herself. "Snow White has used the poisoned comb in her hair and she will not live long now. Nothing can save her." But the Queen was quite wrong, for help was near at hand.

2. The busy little Seven Dwarfs, returning from their work in the gold-mine in the mountains, caught a glimpse of the Queen hurrying away with her black cat. "She has called on Snow White for a second time," said one. "What evil has she been up to now?" "We will soon find out," said the others, and in great haste they ran towards the cottage to find Snow White.



3. Poor Snow White was found lying on the floor, looking limp and pale. "She does not breathe," gasped the youngest dwarf. "Lift her on to the bed." Tenderly they did this and as they moved Snow White the poisoned comb fell out of her lovely dark hair—and at once the colour came back into her white cheeks.



4. Her eyes fluttered open and she got up. "I feel a little wobbly on my legs, but much better," she said. "Thank you, my dear friends for rescuing me." "You gave us such a fright," the dwarfs told her. "Promise us that you will be careful in future, if that wicked Queen comes to try any more evil tricks."



5. Back in the Palace, the Queen was so sure that she had got rid of Snow White that she went straight to the magic mirror. "And now, O mirror on the wall, who is the fairest one of all?" she asked. Back came the answer: "I only speak of what is true—your spell did fail, it is not YOU!" replied the mirror. In great rage the Queen turned away, shaking her fist.



6. "I must be more clever with my plans," she said to herself. "This time I will use a magic poisoned apple." In secret she got everything ready. First she got a ripe apple and held it over a bowl while she poured over the red half of it a powerful poison. So carefully and cunningly did she do it that the apple was not touched by the poison on the green side.



7. As the second part of her plan, the wicked Queen muttered another magic spell which changed her good looks to those of a wrinkled-faced old woman with a long nose. Then off she went.

8. "One tiny bite of the red part of this apple will swiftly poison Snow White," she chuckled. "I will make sure that she will not be able to resist it."
(More of this story next week.)



1. **Oak Beauty.** Moths have many enemies, such as birds, and to avoid being seen some have a special colouring, or camouflage. Such a moth is the Oak Beauty. One is shown "hiding" itself against the bark of an oak tree. It will stay there without moving.



2. **The Garden Tiger Moth.** This moth has no colour protection and cannot "hide" itself. The male moth, shown here, is as brightly coloured as a butterfly. The caterpillar of the Tiger Moth is covered with long hairs, and is well known by the name of "Woolly Bear".



In last week's "Once Upon A Time" we showed you all sorts of butterflies. Not everybody can tell the difference between a moth and a butterfly, so this week's Allsorts pages are:

All Sorts



5. **The Privet Hawk Moth.** Some caterpillars of the moth family are very strange in shape and colour. A good example of this is the Privet Hawk Moth caterpillar. Its bright markings and the way it rears up are enough to frighten off most enemies which may attack it.



6. **The Plume Moth.** Many people think of a moth as being a rather drab and uninteresting creature, but they would soon change their minds if they saw the graceful Plume Moth. As you can see from our artist's picture, its feather-like wings give it its name.



3. **The Allanthus Silk Moth.** For many years we have been making use of the silk moths. The fine thread which they use to make their cocoons can be collected and woven into silk material. The Allanthus Moth comes from China and produces a coarse silk.



4. **Luna Moth.** This moth, with beautiful long tails on the ends of its wings, comes from the continent of Asia. It is fairly common there and the children sometimes keep a Luna Moth as a pet. It is easy to keep alive, and likes to eat the plentiful hawthorn leaves.

of Moths



7. **The Death's Head Moth.** Here is another moth which gets its name from a special feature. It is called Death's Head because of the skull-like marking on its back. This large moth can be seen in Britain in August and it flies in, all the way from Africa.



8. **The Hercules Moth.** Most moths could be put into a matchbox when collected for safe keeping. But, as the picture shows very clearly, this is not possible with the world's largest moth. Called the Hercules Moth, it has a wing-span of no less than nine inches!



BREXER RABBIT

This week's story is *The Mermaid*. By Barbara Hayes.

NOW back in the old days, when the days were long and hot and lazy, there was a very pretty pool near the edge of the forest, where the animals liked to go for a swim.

The only trouble was that the pool used to get very crowded.

Brer Rabbit would no sooner start floating lazily across the pool on his back than — WHUMP! — Brer Weasel would jump in and land right on Brer Rabbit's tummy.

Or — BONK! — Brer Beaver would come up suddenly from the bottom of the pool and biff Brer Rabbit with his head.

Or, worst of all, Brer Fox would come paddling across the water and snap his teeth by Brer Rabbit's ear and say:

"All this swimming makes a fellow

mighty hungry, doesn't it, Brer Rabbit?"

So, all in all, Brer Rabbit felt it was time he did something about keeping the pool a little emptier.

One afternoon, when all the other animals were still having their after-lunch sleep, Brer Rabbit borrowed a bonnet and a nightdress belonging to Mrs. Rabbit.

Then he went to his friend Brer Terrapin, who was snoozing by the pool.

Rat-tat-tat!

Brer Rabbit knocked on Brer Terrapin's shell.

"Out you come," said Brer Rabbit. "Put on this bonnet and nightdress and then swim about in the centre of the pool, just below the surface, so that we can see you, but not very clearly. And whatever

happens don't say anything."

Well, by and by, Brer Weasel came to the pool for a swim, but before he could dive in, Brer Rabbit said:

"I wouldn't go in the pool just yet, friend."

"Why not, Brer Rabbit?"

"Because a mermaid has come to live there."

"A mermaid?" gasped Brer Weasel.

"Yes, a mermaid. And she told me that she would bite the toes off anyone who went into the pool before they had stood at the edge and counted out aloud up to five hundred thousand," said artful Brer Rabbit.

Well, Brer Weasel looked across the pool and there in the centre, sure enough, he saw something floating in the water.

So he stood on the bank and started to count.
He only stopped for a moment, when Brer Rabbit waded into the water.

"How come you can go in, Brer Rabbit?" he asked.

"Because I did my counting before you came," said naughty Brer Rabbit, and went in for a lovely swim.

Presently Brer Beaver arrived. He stared at Brer Weasel standing by the pool saying, "One hundred and one, one hundred and two."

"How come you are counting?" he asked.

"Because a mermaid has come to live in the pool."

"A mermaid?" gasped Brer Beaver.

"Yes, a mermaid, and she says she will bite the toes off anyone who goes into the pool without standing on the edge and counting aloud up to five hundred thousand," said Brer Weasel.

Well, Brer Beaver looked into the pool and saw the nightdress and bonnet shimmering through the water and was sure it was a mermaid. So he started counting too.

And Brer Rabbit went on having a lovely swim.

Then Brer Fox arrived and saw Brer Weasel counting, "Two hundred and three, two hundred and four."

And Brer Fox said: "How come you are counting?"

"Because a mermaid has come to live in the pool."

"A mermaid?"

"Yes, a mermaid, and she says she will bite the toes off anyone who goes into the pool without standing on the edge and counting aloud up to five hundred thousand."

"How come Brer Rabbit isn't having his toes bitten?"

"He did his counting before we got here," Brer Weasel and Brer Beaver told him.

Then Brer Fox looked into the pool and saw the nightdress and the bonnet shimmering through the water, so he started to count too.

And all that counting they did gave Brer Rabbit time to have a lovely swim.

When he had finished, he came out of the water, and so did Brer Terrapin in the bonnet and nightdress.

How the other animals stared, when they saw the mermaid was only old Brer Terrapin.

How foolish they felt.

And how Brer Rabbit laughed and laughed and laughed.

There will be another Brer Rabbit story next week.

BRER RABBIT'S RIDDLES

1. What can fall on water and yet never get wet?
2. What is always going up?
3. What belongs to you, but is used more by your friends?
4. Why is a spoon in a cup of tea like "Once Upon A Time"?
5. How do we make the coat of a man's suit last?
6. Which is the heavier, the new moon or the full moon?

ANSWERS:

1. Your shadow; 2. Your age; 3. Your name; 4. Because it is in tea resting ("interesting"); 5. Make the trousers first; 6. The new moon, because the full moon is "lighter".

YOUR EDITOR'S LETTER

Dear Boys and Girls,

For those of you who have not heard about it, I must tell you that "Once Upon A Time" Annual is now on sale in the shops. It has 96 pages, all in full colour and costs 12s. 6d. If you are thinking of one for a Christmas gift, for a friend or for yourself, you should go to the shop and ask them to keep a copy for you. And don't forget, too, that if you have missed any copies of "Once Upon A Time" and need them for your Binder, they can be got from 167 Fleet Street, London, E.C.4, at 1s. 8d. each, including postage.

Your friend, The Editor.

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Well, Fancy That!



1. **The Mammoth.** This animal, rather like a giant elephant with huge curved tusks, was a mammoth, which lived on Earth about ten thousand years ago. We know exactly what a mammoth looked like, for whole bodies of these great animals have been found deep-frozen in the ice of Siberia, which is in Russia. They were so well-preserved that the meat could have been cooked and eaten after thawing out!



2. **Wearing a kilt.** We always think of Scotland as being the home of the kilt, but in fact it is the oldest form of dress known to us. For instance, the Ancient Romans were wearing kilts and that was two thousand years ago!



3. **The first book.** Printing in Europe did not start until just over 600 years ago, but the first book ever printed (not written) was made by a man named Wang Chieh in the year 868. It was given away free in China.

Birds at the Food Table

This delightful picture, painted by artist Neave Parker, shows the different kinds of birds which may visit your food-table in the garden, although they are not likely to be there all at the same time. To help you to get to know these birds, they are all numbered and their names are:

1. ROBIN
2. STARLING
3. REDWING
4. CHAFFINCH
5. NUTHATCH
6. SPARROW
7. GREAT SPOTTED WOODPECKER
8. BLACKBIRD
9. THRUSH
10. GOLDFINCH
11. GREAT TIT
12. BLUE TIT
13. WAXWING
14. BULLFINCH
15. WREN
16. HAWFINCH
17. LONG-TAILED TIT



Throwing out crumbs into the garden is something that most people do. Sparrows will usually come down for them first and then get pushed away by greedy starlings. In a few minutes there will be no crumbs left to bring shyer birds, such as blue tits and blackbirds, into the garden. The best way to get a good collection of different birds to visit you is to have a bird-table close to a tree on which you can hang food, such as fat or peanuts. Bacon rind is a good thing to put on the table, but it is best to cut it up into small pieces, or a greedy

bird may be tempted to swallow a whole rind in one gulp and choke itself. You will be surprised how many different kinds of birds will come to a food-table—some of them will even wait for you to come out with the food. Now that the winter weather is with us, the shortage of natural food will bring birds very readily to your table. If you place it in your garden near a window you can look out and watch the delightful visitors which come to feed. Make a note in a book of the different kinds. One last thing—please see that there is water for them.

This is a Memory Test in the form of a jolly poem. Read it, then turn to page 16 and try to answer the questions about it.

The Frog who went a-courting

*When Froggie went a-courting,
To find himself a bride,
He travelled in a snail-drawn coach,
All puffed up in his pride.*

*He went to Missy Mousie's hall,
Gave a knock and gave a call.
"Pray, Miss Mousie, are you in?"
"Yes, kind sir, I sit and spin."*

*He took Miss Mousie on his knee,
"Now," he said, "please marry me."
Miss Mousie blushed and hung her head.
"Ask Uncle Rat," was all she said.*

*Froggie said "I'll do just that."
And went to speak with Uncle Rat.
"Uncle Rat," he bravely said,
"Your niece and I would like to wed."*

*Miss Mousie's Uncle shouted loud,
"Of such a thing I'd be real proud.
My niece can be your lovely bride,
And evermore stand by your side."*

*Next day the Uncle went to town,
To get his niece a wedding gown.
"Where shall the wedding supper be?
Deep inside that hollow tree."*

*But when they all sat down to sup,
A goose arrived and ate them up.
And that's the end of one, two, three,
The Rat, the Mouse and proud
Frog-gie!*

Did you like that poem? Sometimes it is easier to remember things when they are written in rhyme. How long would it take you to learn all the verses by heart, so that you could stand up and recite the whole poem? You can test your memory by turning to page 16, where you will find some questions about "The Frog Who Went A-courting" to answer.





The Princess in the Tower



1. There was once a Queen with two daughters. One was called Olivia and she liked her. The other was called Rosa and she hated her so much that she locked her in a room in a tower, telling people that Rosa had gone away to visit distant friends.



2. Princess Rosa, having no other companion but a deaf old serving-woman, took to sewing to relieve her loneliness. She was fond of tales of love and adventure, and being clever with a needle she made tapestries, telling these stories in pictures.



3. As each tapestry was finished the serving-woman took it to the Queen, who hung them in the Palace rooms. "They are quite beautiful, and I suppose Rosa should earn her keep," she said to her other daughter, Olivia, who only gave a scornful sniff.



4. Soon the young King of a nearby country visited the Palace and saw the tapestries. "What beautiful work," he said. "The hand that made these must belong to the loveliest lady in the land. Who is she?" "My daughter Olivia," replied the Queen.



5. The King did not know that this was not the truth and he went for a walk in the garden with Princess Olivia. He found she was fair, but not all that charming in manners. Suddenly a rose-thorn caught at his tunic and pulled off a button.



6. "How fortunate that you are clever with a needle, Olivia," said the King. "You can sew it on for me." "ME? Sew on a button?" snapped Olivia. "I am a Princess not a maid." So the King knew then that Olivia had not sewn those tapestries.



7. "It is my belief that the Queen tricked me into believing that it was the work of Princess Olivia, hoping that I would ask her to be my wife," he said. "And I might well have done so, but for that button coming off." He looked at the tapestries again and saw one which Rosa had done of herself in the tower.



8. So the King made his way to the tower and broke down the locked door. When he saw the sad Princess seated at her sewing he fell in love with her. "Marry me and be Queen of all my lands," he said, and Rosa agreed. And then the two of them went happily down the winding stairs of the tower, hand in hand.



Beautiful Paintings

Horses make beautiful pictures, especially when they are wild and proud and untamed. Here is a lovely example of the carefree style of a modern artist named Ricardo Arenys. About four months ago, we printed in "Once Upon A Time" a picture of two white horses by the same artist. Many of you cut it out to hang on the wall or put into a scrapbook. The

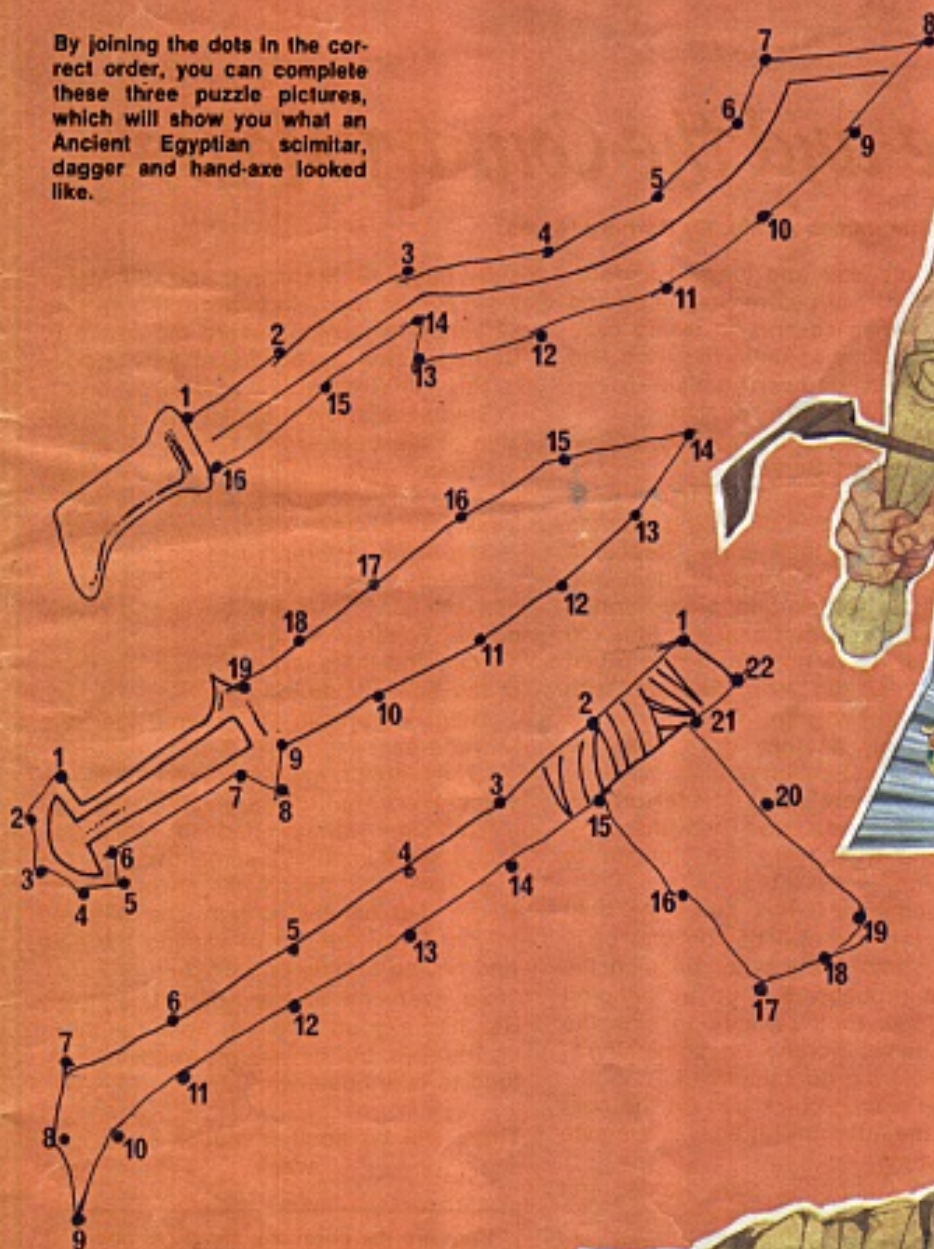
title of the picture above is "Horses in the Foothills". How delightful they look, standing there free, with the wind blowing their long silky tails and manes, looking over the foothills beneath the mountains. They have never known the feel of a saddle on their backs or a bit between their teeth.

(Reproduced from a poster published by Pallas Gallery Ltd., London)

Egyptian King

As long as four thousand years ago, even before Jesus was born, the country of Egypt was a great Kingdom. The people knew how to make clothes, jewellery and metal weapons. They even had a form of writing by using pictures instead of words. You can see some of this writing on the wall beside the proud-looking Egyptian King.

By joining the dots in the correct order, you can complete these three puzzle pictures, which will show you what an Ancient Egyptian scimitar, dagger and hand-axe looked like.





The Town Mouse and the Country Mouse

This week Stephanie names a ship. By Barbara Hayes.

It was a great day for Stephanie, the town mouse.

She had been invited to name the grand new paddle steamer that had been built for taking all the townsfolk on river trips.

"It is a fine pretty boat, so it should be named by the prettiest lady in town," said the Mayor. "And we all know that the prettiest lady in town is Stephanie. We should know, she tells us often enough."

Stephanie ignored the last part of the Mayor's remark and just said how delighted and honoured she was to be chosen.

So, on the day that the boat was ready, the Mayor put on his robe and gold chain and, with several other important people from the town council, he called for Stephanie and her boy-friend, Nigel. They all went down to the riverside.

But unfortunately the Mayor and his friends were not the only people going down to the river that day.

Word of the lovely new paddle steamer had not only got about round the town. People in the country had heard of it, too.

And unluckily one of the mice who had heard about it was little Rex.

Rex the Wrecker he was called by everyone who knew him, because he seemed to break everything he touched and trip over everything he passed.

His mother said he was just unlucky, but everyone else thought he was just deliberately horrid.

Now, like other little chaps, Rex the Wrecker was very fond of boats.

So when he heard that a new paddle steamer had been built, he thought, "I should like a trip on that."

And then he thought: "I will have a trip on it and all on my own too, without a lot of bossy grown-ups telling me not to do this and not to do that."

So Rex the Wrecker dashed down to

the paddle steamer and jumped aboard.

He got there just before Stephanie and the other town mice and he would have had plenty of time to untie the rope and drift away down the river on his own, but just then two other mice arrived.

They were Winifred, the country mouse, and her boy-friend, Bertie.

They had heard that Stephanie was to name the new steamer and they had come to watch, but as they knew Stephanie was always rather ashamed of them with their country clothes and old-fashioned ways, they had just come up in a little old rowing boat to watch from the river, where they would not interfere with Stephanie and her grand friends.

But suddenly as they drew near the steamer, Winifred called out:

"Why, look, there's that little terror, Rex the Wrecker. And, good heavens, he's undoing the rope tying the steamer to the quayside."

"My goodness, if Rex takes the boat out for a trip that will be the end of it. He'll crash into every other boat on the river, then probably end up by banging into a bridge. He'll be sure to sink the boat somehow. Bertie! Do something!"

And Bertie did do something. He gave a final quick pull on the oars and took the little rowing boat to the side of the steamer.

Then he climbed a rope ladder and called out to Rex the Wrecker:

"You just stop untying that rope, my lad, or I will give you a piece of my mind."

"And if you still don't stop untying the rope, I will whack the dust out of the seat of your trousers, with you still in them!"

Rex stopped untying the rope at once.

"That's better, my lad," said Bertie, who was really a little surprised that Rex the Wrecker had obeyed him so promptly.

"Now keep well away from this new boat and behave yourself properly."

By this time Stephanie and the Mayor were almost ready to perform the naming ceremony when they heard the sound of Bertie's voice as he spoke very sternly to Rex the Wrecker.

Stephanie and the Mayor rushed to the side of the boat.

"Thank you for saving our new steamer!" the Mayor said to Bertie. "May I ask your name?"

Stephanie interrupted at once.

"Oh, this is a very dear friend of mine," she smiled. "He is the boy-friend of my cousin Winifred."

"Oh, and there is Winifred, down there in the boat—hallo, darling."

Then Stephanie whispered in the Mayor's ear:

"They aren't my *smartest* friends, as you can see, but they are very brave."

Stephanie always had to make her family seem important somehow.

Anyway, the Mayor was so grateful to Bertie that he invited him and Winifred to join in all the fun of naming the ship and having a party on board.

So everyone had a good time. Even Rex had a good time. He wasn't allowed on the ship, but he was given some party food to take home with him.

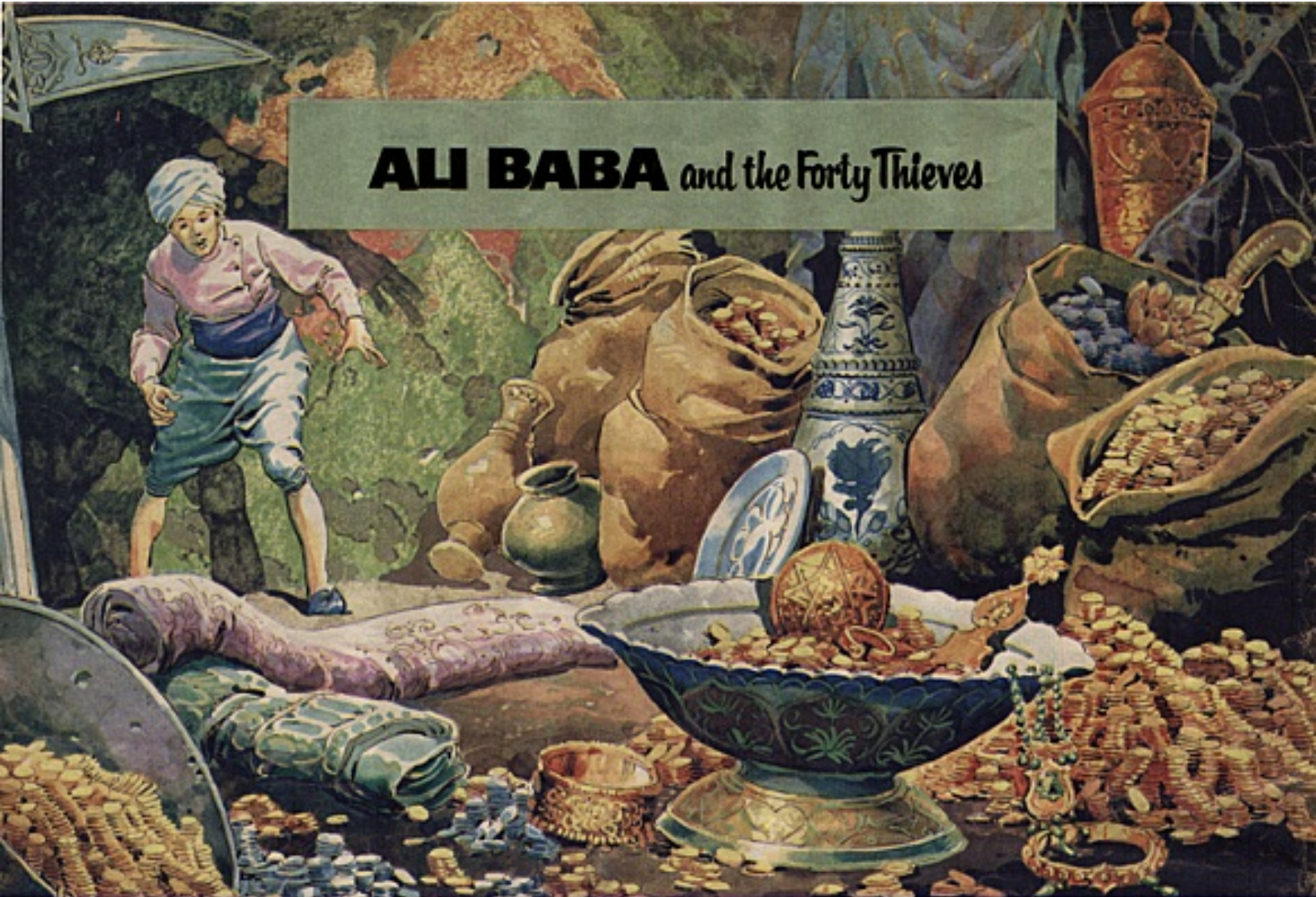
There will be another mouse story next week.

Here are the questions about the poem "The Frog Who Went A-courting" on page 10. Test your memory by seeing how many you can answer.

1. How did the Frog travel to Missy Mouse's hall?
2. What was her answer when he asked if she was in?
3. Where did Uncle Rat decide to hold the wedding supper?
4. What arrived and suddenly gobbled them all up?



ALI BABA and the Forty Thieves



1. Just as he had seen the robber chieftain do, Ali Baba faced the solid-seeming rock and uttered the words: "Open, Sesame!" At once a great door in the rock flew open and Ali Baba went into a great secret cave. As he stepped inside, the door closed behind him with a thud, but Ali Baba scarcely heard it.

2. He was gasping with surprise at what he saw in the treasure cave. Diamonds and rubies glittered from open chests, gold and silver spilled from over-filled bags, beautiful ornaments littered the floor and rich silks were heaped all around.



3. Ali Baba could never hope to find the real owners of this treasure. Being poor, he thought he should have a little of it, so he filled a bag with golden coins.



4. "Open, Sesame!" he said when he had finished. The door swung open and Ali Baba stepped out. "Shut, Sesame!" he said, and the door obeyed and closed as Ali Baba loaded the bag of gold on to his donkey.



5. Never before had Ali Baba possessed more than a few shillings at one time and he hurried home to tell his wife of his good fortune. "We must hide this gold," decided his wife. "But first we must see how much it is by using a measuring cup, borrowed from your brother's wife."



6. Ali Baba's brother, Cassim, was a greedy person and so was his wife. Ali Baba's wife went to borrow the measuring cup, but said nothing about the gold.



7. Cassim's wife, however, was very curious about it. "I will find out what they want to measure," she said. She lit a candle and then cunningly allowed some of the wax to drip into the cup.



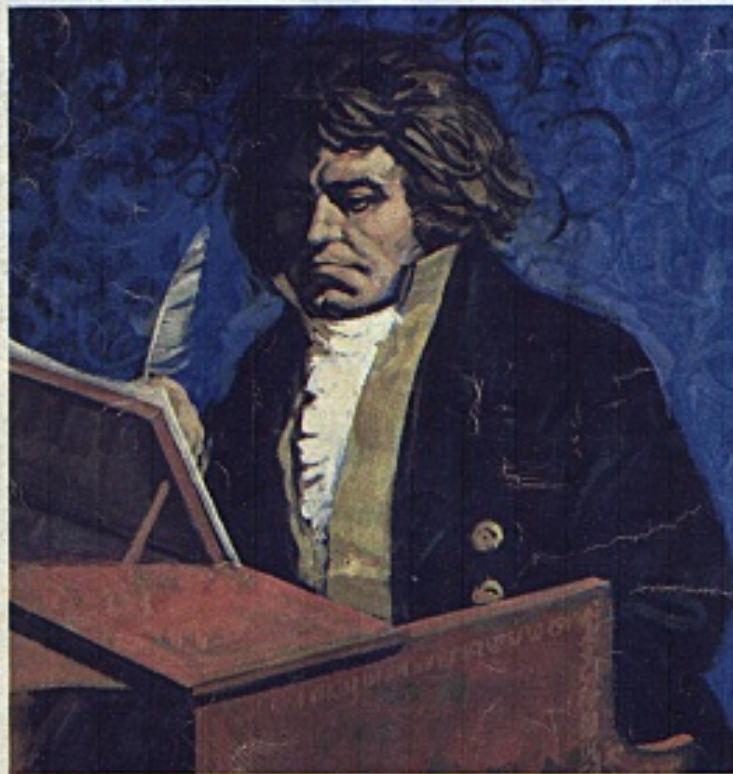
8. Not aware of this, Ali Baba and his wife used the borrowed cup to measure the gold. They did not notice that one of the gold coins became stuck to the candle wax. (More of Ali Baba next week.)

FAMOUS NAMES

Learn how chalk was made and about the lives of some famous men.



1. **The White Cliffs of Dover.** Millions of years ago, parts of the land were under the sea in which lived lots of tiny shell-fish. As the shell-fish died, their white shells piled up on the sea-bed. As time went by the shells slowly packed down hard and became chalk. The White Cliffs of Dover are made of it.



3. **Ludwig van Beethoven** (say "Bay-toe-ven"). Many lovers of music say that Beethoven composed the most wonderful music ever written. He wrote music for the piano and orchestra. He became deaf when young and never heard some of his best music.



2. **Samson.** According to the Bible, Samson was a very strong man who killed many of the enemies of Israel with the jawbone of an ass as his only weapon. His strength, so it is said, was stored in his hair and when this had been cut off one night by Delilah, he became weak enough to be captured by his foes.



4. **King John.** King John ruled England in the time of Robin Hood. Once, when travelling from one castle to another, he lost his way in some flooded marshes. Many of his carts carried treasure and crown jewels. They sank under the mud and were lost forever.